

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 15 and 22. Claims 15, 17, and 19-22 are now pending. The abstract has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Claim 15 has been amended to address the rejection under 35 USC 112. Claim 22 has been amended to address the Examiner's objection. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Rejections under 35 USC 103

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 15 as being unpatentable over US Patent No 6,071,573 to Koemetzopoulos et al. Claim 15 has been amended to positively recite restricting the silicon containing coating to exclude flourine, i.e., consisting essentially of silicon and one of bromine and chlorine. Accordingly, the amended claims are no longer unpatentable over the cited reference. Applicants respectfully request that the examiner withdraw this rejection for at least these reasons. As claims 17 and 19-22 depend from claim 15, these claims are allowable over the sited reference for at least these reasons.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. A notice of allowance is respectfully requested. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 774-6921. If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such

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Amendment dated October 19, 2006
Reply to Office action of April 19, 2006

fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. LAM2P410). A copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

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